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COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF PHRASEOLOGICAL UNITS IN THE RUSSIAN AND UZBEK LANGUAGES

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Abstract

This article examines the features of phraseological units in the Russian and Uzbek languages from a comparative perspective. Phraseological units constitute an important layer of a language's lexical system, reflecting national and cultural characteristics, historical experience, and the worldview of a people. The study identifies both common and distinctive features of Russian and Uzbek phraseological expressions and analyzes their semantic, structural, and cultural characteristics. Particular attention is paid to equivalent and non-equivalent phraseological units as well as their role in intercultural communication.

Keywords: phraseology, phraseological unit, Russian language, Uzbek language, comparative linguistics, national and cultural specificity, linguistic worldview, equivalence.

Introduction

The phraseological stock of any language serves as a unique repository of a nation's culture and collective experience. Phraseological units reflect traditions, customs, historical events, everyday life, and the worldview of language speakers. Therefore, the comparative study of phraseological units makes it possible to gain a deeper understanding not only of linguistic phenomena but also of the cultural characteristics of different peoples.

Russian and Uzbek belong to different language families: Russian is a member of the Indo-European language family, whereas Uzbek belongs to the Turkic language family. Despite their genetic differences, the phraseological systems of these languages reveal both common patterns and specific national features.

Common Features of Russian and Uzbek Phraseological Units

Phraseological units in Russian and Uzbek share several universal characteristics, including structural stability, reproducibility in speech, semantic integrity, and figurativeness.

Many phraseological expressions in both languages convey similar concepts and life situations. For example:

Russian	Uzbek	Meaning
To hold one's tongue behind one's teeth	Tilini tishlamoq	To keep silent, to keep a secret
Like two drops of water	Bir tomchi suvday	Very similar
Not to lose heart	Ruhini tushirmaslik	Not to become discouraged

Russian	Uzbek	Meaning
Golden hands	Qo‘li gul	To be highly skilled

These examples demonstrate the existence of universal human concepts related to work, behavior, and interpersonal relationships. Such phraseological units often have complete or partial equivalents in both languages.

National and Cultural Specificity of Phraseological Units

Despite their common features, many phraseological units reflect the peculiarities of national culture and worldview.

In Russian, a significant number of phraseological expressions are associated with natural conditions, rural life, and Orthodox Christian traditions:

- Seven Fridays in a week;
- Like snow on one's head;
- After the rain on Thursday;
- God has given.

In Uzbek, phraseological expressions are widely connected with Eastern traditions, family relations, and the national way of life:

- *Bel bog‘lamoq* (to make a firm decision);
- *Ko‘ngli tog‘day ko‘tarilmoq* (to be extremely happy);
- *Qo‘lidan kelmoq* (to be capable of doing something);
- *Yuragi orqasiga tortib ketmoq* (to become very frightened).

National and cultural specificity is also manifested in the imagery underlying phraseological expressions. For instance, Russian phraseology frequently employs images of forests, snow, wolves, and bears, whereas Uzbek phraseology often draws upon images of mountains, steppes, camels, horses, and the family hearth.

Equivalent and Non-equivalent Phraseological Units

When comparing Russian and Uzbek phraseological units, three main groups can be distinguished.

Complete Equivalents

These are phraseological units that coincide in both meaning and imagery:

- A wolf in sheep's clothing — *Qo‘y terisiga o‘ralgan bo‘ri*;
- Crocodile tears — *Timsoh ko‘z yoshi*;
- Apple of discord — *Nizo olmasi*.

Partial Equivalents

The meaning coincides, while the figurative basis differs:

- To make an elephant out of a fly — *Pashshadan fil yasamoq*;
- To fight like cat and dog — *It-mushuk bo‘lib yashamoq*.

Non-equivalent Phraseological Units

Some phraseological units have no exact counterparts in another language because they are connected with specific national realities.

For example:

- Russian: "After the rain on Thursday";
- Uzbek: "When the camel's tail touches the ground."

Both expressions denote an unlikely or improbable event; however, they are based on different cultural images.

The Role of Phraseological Units in Intercultural Communication

Phraseological units play a significant role in intercultural communication. Their correct understanding contributes to a more accurate transmission of meaning and helps prevent communicative misunderstandings. When translating phraseological units, it is essential to consider not only their lexical meaning but also their national and cultural specificity.

This issue becomes particularly relevant in the context of globalization and active interaction among different cultures. Translators must determine whether an equivalent phraseological unit exists in the target language or whether a descriptive translation is required.

The comparative study of Russian and Uzbek phraseological units contributes to the development of intercultural competence and deepens understanding of the linguistic worldview of both peoples.

Conclusion

The conducted analysis demonstrates that the phraseological systems of the Russian and Uzbek languages possess both universal and nationally specific characteristics. The similarity of many phraseological units is обусловлена shared human experience and universal perceptions of the world. At the same time, the differences reflect the cultural uniqueness, historical traditions, and worldview of the Russian and Uzbek peoples.

Comparative research on phraseological units makes it possible to identify patterns in the linguistic representation of reality, contributes to the development of intercultural communication theory, and has practical significance for translation studies, language teaching, and linguocultural research.

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